1983-1984 ALPINE AND NORDIC GUIDE

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SKI MONTANA

naturally inviting!

The Northern Rockies cut magnificently along western Montana, defining the shape and character of the state and, incidentally, giving Montana its name — Montana means "mountain" in Spanish. The Rockies, rooted far to the south where they loom more often as individual peaks and ranges, are going strong by the time they trumpet through Montana to fling themselves north to Canada. Montana's vast landscape lets you see hundreds of miles of them at once in one triumphant thrust of mountains.

These northern Rockies of Montana do more than make dramatic sunsets. They grab clouds eastbound from the Pacific and wring moisture from them. Moisture falling as rain along that great Continental Divide mountain barrier flows from the eastern slopes through creeks and rivers to Hudson's Bay and the Gulf of Mexico, and from the western drainages to the Columbia River and through the Columbia back to the sea. In winter, the moisture falls as snow — deep northern Rockies powder that is perfect for surfing through on skis.

You can ski Alpine down these famed and fabled mountains, at a big-name ski resort or from a cozy hideaway that the rest of the world hasn't claimed yet. Clamp on cross-country skis and go Nordic on flat tracks or telemark hills, either on your own or at a resort just right for skinny skis. Ski into Glacier National Park, or take a winter trip to see Old Faithful erupting in frosty air at Yellowstone. Ski out of a hot springs resort so you can ski back and soak in a hot pool. Take a sleigh ride in the moonlight, or sled down a hill, or build a snowman, or write your own winter-fun menu. In Montana, winter is good — and good for you.

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Photo by Garry Wunderwald

Montana usually greets winter by Thanksgiving, and skiing can last well into the spring season. This fourth largest state ranks 43rd in population, so there are no crowds, no lift lines, no waiting, no elbows in your ribs. But don't get the idea that it's lonesome — because the people you ski with and throw snowballs at are friendly folks who laugh easy and are inclined to say hello first.

And a good time in Montana costs less than you expect. Lift tickets, accommodations, ski instruction, meals, rental equipment — all are priced lower than they are almost anyplace else. Montana is easy to find, too. Good highways lead into and out of the state and airlines serve Montana's major cities, with car rentals and bus service when and where you need them.

For winter enthusiasts, there's one place to remember. It's those Montana Rockies. They're so great to ski down . . . and so hard to forget.

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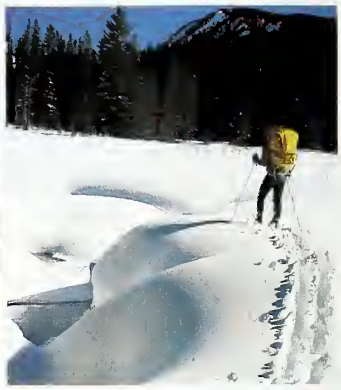
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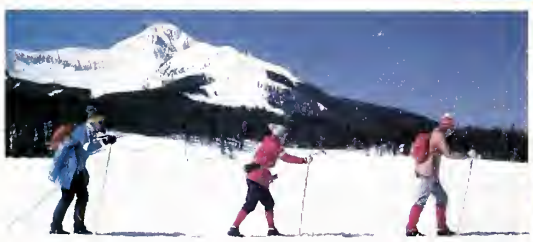
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ALPINE SKIING

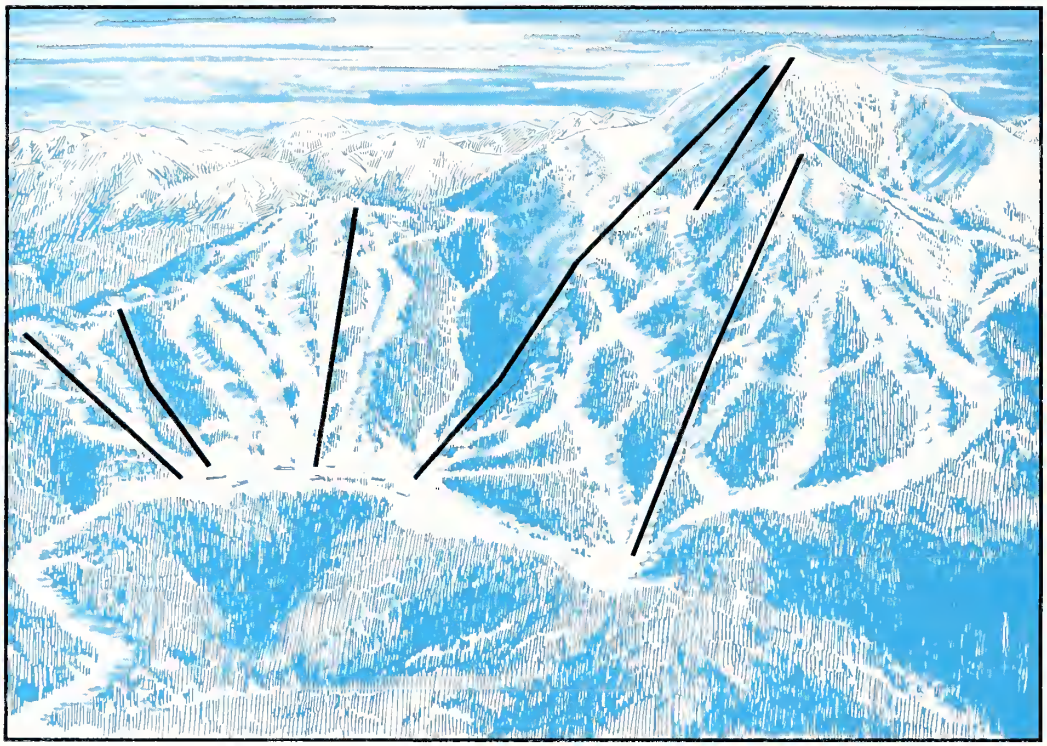
Montana keeps its powder dry. And deep. That's what the northern Rockies are famous for: Deep, dry, high mountain powder snow —the kind that is so much fun to ski in that you find yourself wishing the run would go on forever.

There's every kind of terrain to ski on: Long, steep drops to challenge the experts. Exhilarating runs to satisfy average skiers over and over again. And friendly runs and hills to make beginning skiers feel like they've mastered the world and the laws of sitzmarks as well.

Montana offers every kind of resort, too. Stylish spots where the disco goes till dawn, and cozy spots with quiet evenings around a fireplace. Splendid skiing on a mountain just for skiing, with food and lodging down the road.

Montana is called "Big Sky Country." But in winter that's spelled "Big Ski."

1 The Big Mountain



LOCATION: 8 miles north of Whitefish. Fly to Glacier International Airport in Kalispell and take a rental car or ski bus to The Big Mountain.

AREA INFORMATION: Write The Big Mountain, P.O. Box 1215, Whitefish, MT 59937, or call (406) 862-3511. For lodging and snow conditions, call (406) 862-3511.

SEASON: Late November through April. Open 7 days, 5 nights a week.

AVERAGE ANNUAL SNOWFALL: 4-7 feet at the base; 7-10 feet on the summit.

BASE ELEVATION: 4,700 feet

TOP ELEVATION: 6,735 feet

VERTICAL DROP: 2,145 feet

TRAILS & SLOPES: 31 different runs on 25 miles of ski terrain on the Flathead National Forest; 25% beginner, 55% intermediate, 20% expert.

LONGEST RUN: 2.5 miles

LIFTS: 3 triple chairs, 2 double chairs, 1 T-bar, 1 rope tow.

LIFT CAPACITY: 7,496 skiers per hour

LIFT TICKETS: $16/adult/day; $10/child/day. Groups are invited to inquire about special rates. Credit cards accepted.

LESSONS: $22 for two 2-hour lessons, $25 for two 1-hour private lessons.

RENTALS: Complete sales & rental shop. Rates: $12/day adults; children 6 & under, ½ price; 3- and 5-consecutive day packages available.

FACILITIES: Lodging for over 1,000 on the mountain ranges from comfortable to deluxe with a heated pool, hot tubs, saunas. Lounges, restaurants, photo shop, day care center and grocery store are all at the base of Big Mountain. Full services in the nearby towns of Whitefish, Kalispell and Columbia Falls.

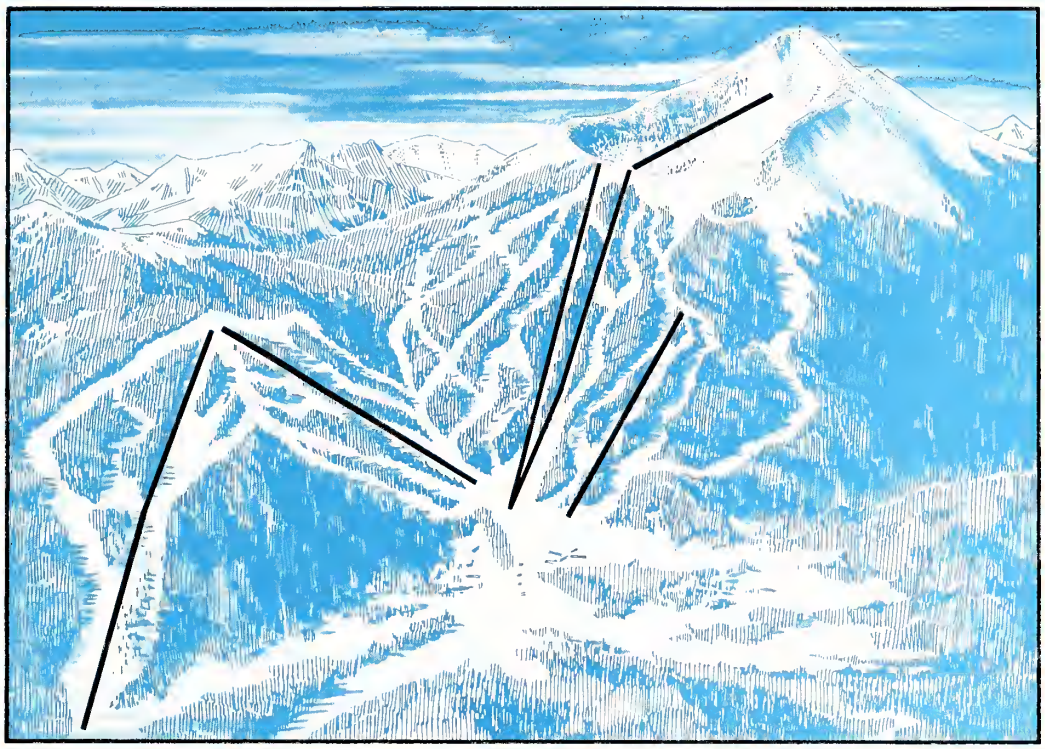
PACKAGES: 1) 2 Nights/2 Days: From $78-110/person, double occupancy. Includes 2 nights' lodging, 2 days' lifts. 2) 4 Nights/3 Days: From $141-205/person, double occupancy. Includes 4 nights' lodging, 3 days' lifts. 3) Ski Week: From $219-315/person, double occupancy. Includes 6 nights' lodging, 5 days' lifts. Low season rates available. Other packages available.

EVENTS: Whitefish Winter Carnival, Feb. 3-5; Fun Beverage/ KJJR Sweetheart Race, Feb. 13; Bash for Cash, March 17; Spring Rendezvous, April.

SKI TOURING: A mapped, 3-mile trail starts from the top of Tenderfoot Chairlift. Additional touring nearby in the Flathead National Forest and Glacier National Park. Rentals are available at The Big Mountain Ski Shop.

THE BIG MOUNTAIN

2 Big Sky of Montana



LOCATION: 18 miles north of Yellowstone National Park and 45 miles south of Bozeman on U.S. 191. Fly to Bozeman and take a rental car or bus up the Gallatin Canyon to Big Sky.

AREA INFORMATION: Write: Big Sky Resort, P.O. Box 1, Big Sky, MT 59716, or call (406) 995-4211 (in Montana) or (800) 548-4486 (outside Montana).

SEASON: Mid-November to early May. Open daily.

AVERAGE ANNUAL SNOWFALL: Over 400 inches

BASE ELEVATION: 7,500 feet

TOP ELEVATION: 9,800 feet

VERTICAL DROP: 2,800 feet

TRAILS & SLOPES: 25% novice, 50% intermediate, 25% expert. 48 miles of alpine trails.

LONGEST RUN: 3 miles

LIFTS: 2 gondolas, 1 triple chair, 3 double chairs, 1 rope tow.

LIFT CAPACITY: 7,400 per hour

LIFT TICKETS: High Season and Christmas Season: $19/day/adult; $14/day/child; $16/day/student. Low and Super Saver Season: $17/day/adult; $12/day/child; $16/day/student.

LESSONS: $14 for a 2-hour group; $25 for a 1-hour private.

RENTALS: $13/day, adults and children. Discounts available for 5 or more consecutive days. Complete sales and rental shop.

FACILITIES: Hundreds of condominium units along with the Four-Diamond, 204-room Huntley Lodge. The Big Sky area has 15 restaurants ranging from deli to gourmet, 11 bars, many with live entertainment, heated pools, jacuzzis, saunas; certified ski patrol, ski school featuring Austrian as well as American instructors, snowmaking equipment, ski sales and rentals.

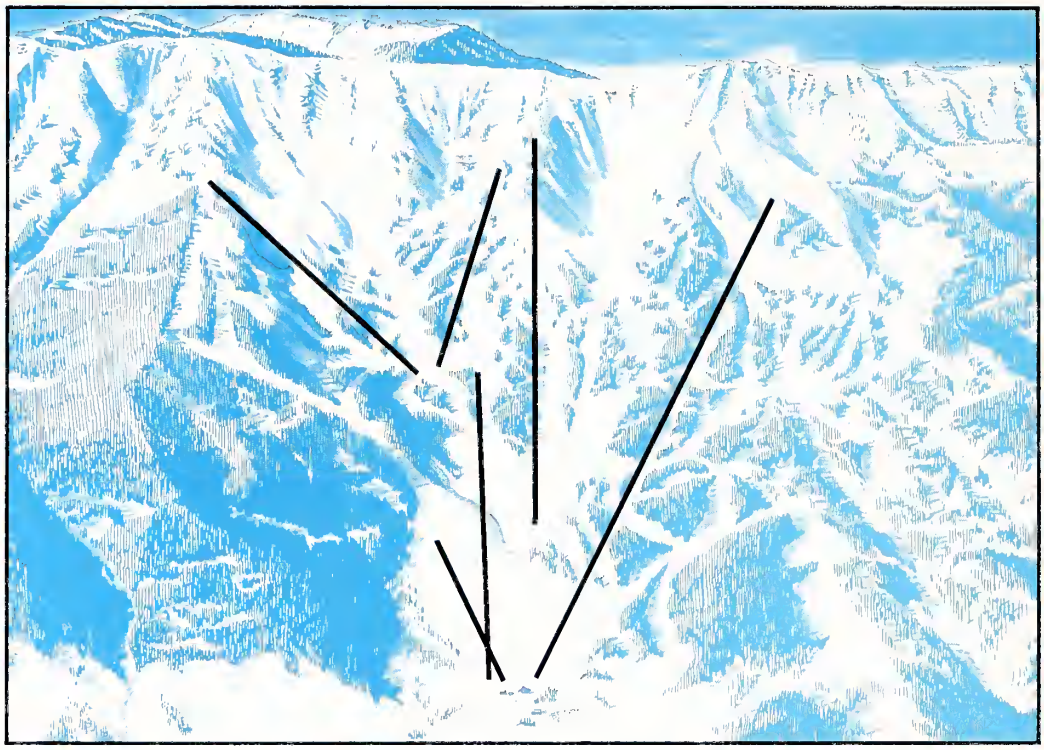
PACKAGES: 1) 7 Nights/6 Days: $288/person, double, Super Saver Season (Opening through Dec. 15, and April 13 through closing). 2) 7 Nights/6 Days: $344/person, double, Low Season (Dec. 1 through Dec. 25, and Jan. 2 through Jan. 19). 3) 7 Nights/6 Days: $398/person, double, High Season (Jan. 20 through April 12). 4) 7 Nights/6 Days: $454/person, double, Holiday Season (Dec. 26 through Jan. 1). All packages include 7 nights in a Huntley Lodge standard room and 6 days of lifts. (ITCATM-BURBS 7)

EVENTS: Western Winter Carnival, January 13, 14, 15. Oly Days Spring Carnival, April 13, 14, 15.

SKI TOURING: 13 nordic trails offering 43 miles of nordic skiing.

BIG SKY
MONTANA

3 Bridger Bowl



LOCATION: 16 miles (25 minutes) NE of Bozeman on Hwy. 86. On the east side of the Bridger Range. Fly into Bozeman, and take limo, car rental or daily shuttle bus to ski area.

AREA INFORMATION: Write Bridger Bowl Ski Area, 15795 Bridger Canyon Rd., Bozeman, MT 59715. For lodging, call (406) 587-2111; for snow conditions, call (406) 586-2389.

SEASON: Mid-December to mid-April. Open daily.

AVERAGE ANNUAL SNOWFALL: 350 inches

BASE ELEVATION: 6,200 feet

TOP ELEVATION: 8,200 feet

VERTICAL DROP: 2,000 feet

TRAILS & SLOPES: Approximately 37 trails. Runs are 25% beginner, 45% intermediate and 30% expert, with bowls, powder glades, trails and groomed slopes on the Gallatin National Forest.

LONGEST RUN: 2.5 miles

LIFTS: 5 double chairs, 2 tows, 1 bar.

LIFT CAPACITY: 3,400 per hour

LIFT TICKETS: Adults, $13; children, $6; senior citizen, $9.

LESSONS: Group lessons, $8 per hour; private lessons, $18. Bridger's ski school has certified instructors.

RENTALS: Round House Rental Shop offers a complete package for $11 per day.

FACILITIES: Base day lodge; Deer Park Lodge, mid-mountain; Crosscut Ranch sleeps 45; Bridger Pines Condos; St. Bernard restaurant. Full range of facilities in Bozeman.

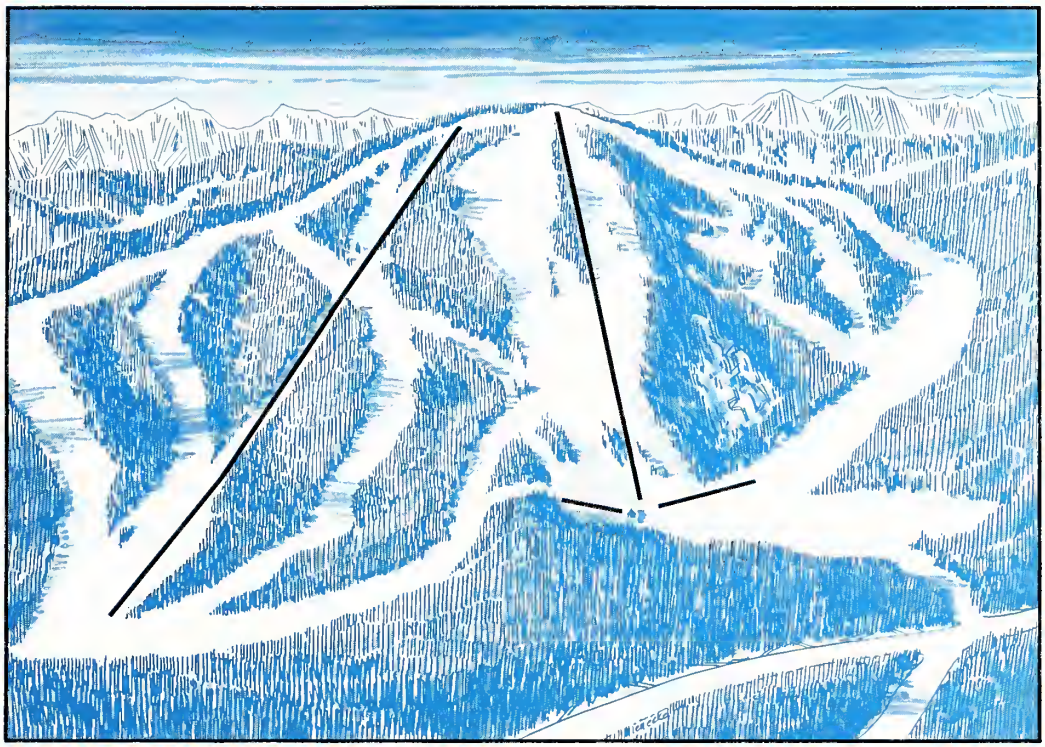
PACKAGES: 1) 7 Nights/6 Days: $212 to $541* per person, double occupancy. 2) 4 Nights/3 Days: $130 to $174 per person, double occupancy. All packages include lodging, lift tickets, 3 group lessons, dinner sleigh ride, half-price movie tickets to any movie in town. *Breakfast and dinner included.

EVENTS: New Year's Eve Torchlight parade; Winter Carnival, February 10-12; Spring Fling, March 17-18; citizen races weekly.

SKI TOURING: Crosscut Ranch has 20 km of groomed trails, $11 per day for trail fee and rentals.

Ski BRIDGER BOWL

4 Lost Trail Ski Area



LOCATION: 90 miles south of Missoula, 50 miles south of Hamilton, and 46 miles north of Salmon, Idaho. On U.S. 93 at the Montana/Idaho border.

AREA INFORMATION: Write P.O. Box 191, Darby, MT 59829, or call (406) 821-3211.

SEASON: December through May 1. Open Thursday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

AVERAGE ANNUAL SNOWFALL: 300 inches

BASE ELEVATION: 6,600 feet

TOP ELEVATION: 7,800 feet

VERTICAL DROP: 1,300 feet

TRAILS & SLOPES: 10 trails on the Bitterroot National Forest. 10% beginner, 30% advanced and 60% novice.

LONGEST RUN: 1.5 miles

LIFTS: 2 double chairs, 2 rope tows

LIFT CAPACITY: 900 skiers per hour

LIFT TICKETS: All-day adult, $10; half-day adult, $7; all-day child (12 and under), $6; half-day child, $5.

LESSONS: Lost Trail has a ski patrol and ski school. Lessons are $16 per hour, private; $8 per hour, semi-private; $6 per hour, group 3 or more. A 7-week ski school program begins in January.

RENTALS: Ski rental shop available with package or separate rates. Complete line of accessories for sale.

FACILITIES: Day lodge on mountain with hot food and friendly atmosphere. Accommodations with swimming, a jacuzzi and sauna are available at Lost Trail Resort just 6 miles north, with other excellent meals and lodging also nearby at Rocky Knob Lodge and Broad Axe Lodge near Sula, MT.

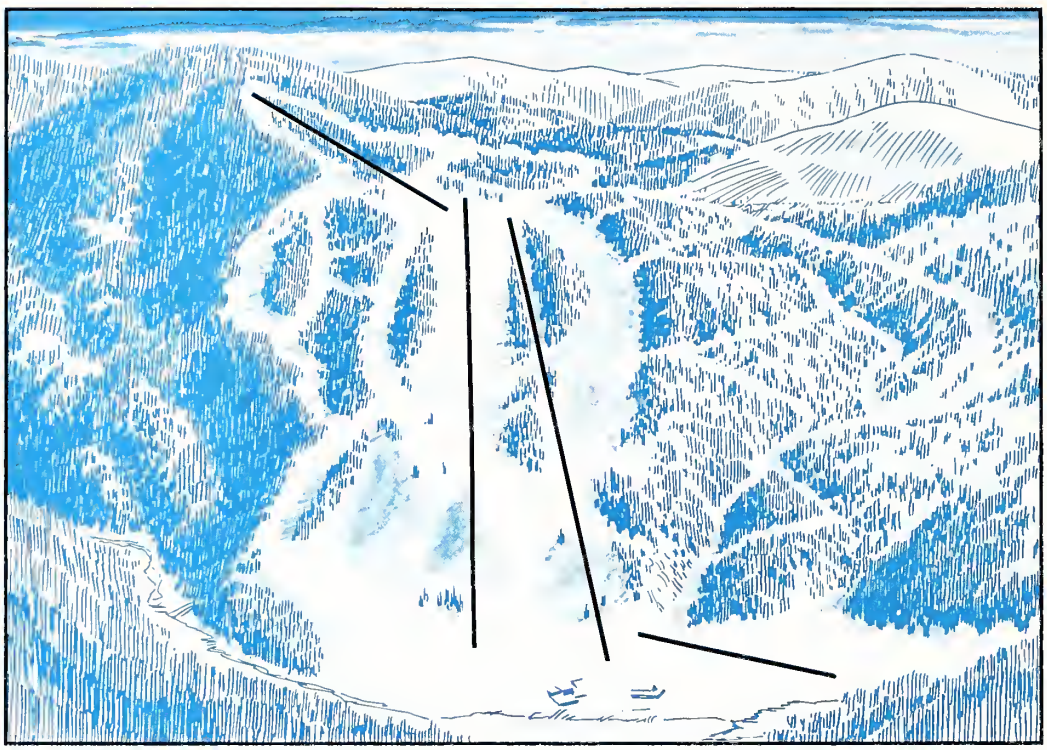
PACKAGES: Group rates available for 20 or more. Discounts offered at local restaurants and hot springs.

EVENTS: KLYQ-Pepsi Family Race Day in April. Salmon Chamber Giant Slalom in February.

SKI TOURING: Unlimited.

LT
LOST TRAIL
SKI AREA
MONTANA · IDAHO

5 Marshall Ski Area



LOCATION: 7 miles from the heart of Missoula, 4 miles east on Highway 200 and 3 miles north on Marshall Canyon Road.

AREA INFORMATION: Write 5250 Marshall Canyon Road, Missoula, MT 59802, or call (406) 258-6619.

SEASON: Thanksgiving through April 1. Open 7 days and 5 nights a week.

AVERAGE ANNUAL SNOWFALL: 180 inches

BASE ELEVATION: 4,000 feet

TOP ELEVATION: 5,500 feet

VERTICAL DROP: 1,500 feet

TRAILS & SLOPES: Marshall has seven runs covering five miles on the Lolo National Forest. 25% beginner, 60% intermediate, 15% advanced.

LONGEST RUN: 7,000 feet

LIFTS: 1 triple chair, 1 T-bar, 2 ropes.

LIFT CAPACITY: 3,700 per hour

LIFT TICKETS: Adult, all-lift day, $9; student, all-lift day, $7; adult, all-lift night, $6; student, all-lift night, $5.

LESSONS: $9 for 1½-hour group; $15 for 1-hour private.

RENTALS: Skis: $6.50; boots: $4; poles: $1.50; set: $9.

FACILITIES: Ski school, ski patrol, snowmaking equipment, ski rental, snack bar, two day lodges, beer & wine bar. There is a full range of facilities and services in nearby Missoula.

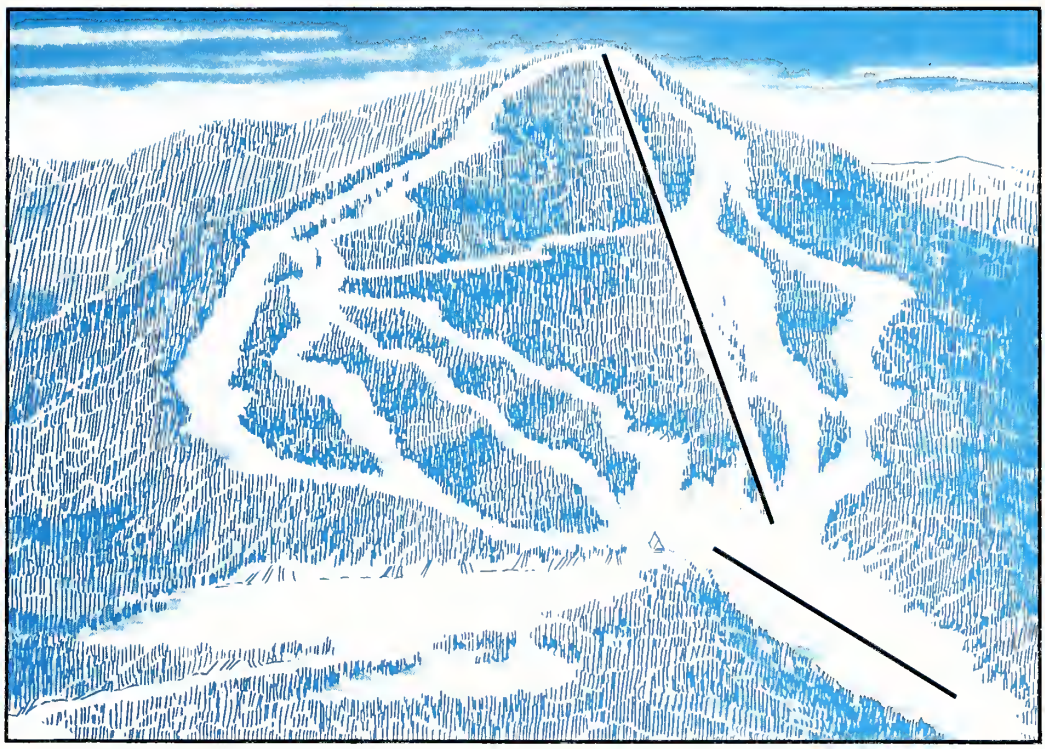
PACKAGES: Available on request.

EVENTS: U.S. Ski Association Hellgate Cup Race, February 11 and 12. Weekly alpine & nordic race series.

SKI TOURING: Available

MARSHALL SKI AREA

6 Maverick Mountain



LOCATION: 38 miles northwest of Dillon on Hwy. 278 in southwestern Montana. Fly to Butte and travel to ski area by rental car or chartered bus service.

AREA INFORMATION: Write Maverick Mountain, 101 North Montana Street, Dillon, MT 59725. For lodging call (406) 683-4521 (off season); (406) 834 3454 (in season between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.). For snow conditions, dial either number.

SEASON: December 1 to Easter. Open Thursday through Sunday and holidays.

AVERAGE ANNUAL SNOWFALL: 140 inches

BASE ELEVATION: 7,500 feet

TOP ELEVATION: 9,220 feet

VERTICAL DROP: 1,720 feet

TRAILS & SLOPES: Maverick has seven trails covering 12 miles on the Beaverhead National Forest. 20% novice, 40% intermediate, 40% expert.

LONGEST RUN: 2.25 miles

LIFTS: One double chair; one pony lift.

LIFT CAPACITY: 700 per hour

SKI TICKETS: All-day adult, $11; all-day junior, $9. Groups inquire about special rates. For groups of 100 or more, the hill is available for private skiing Monday through Wednesday.

LESSONS: Maverick has a ski patrol and certified ski school with 14 instructors. The rates are $15 for 1-hour private; groups of 4 or more, $7 per person. Sunday mornings, free rentals and instruction for beginners.

RENTALS: Adult complete rental package $8.50; junior complete package $6.50 per day.

FACILITIES: Newly remodeled lodge at the mountain with cafeteria and wine room. Hot springs, two restaurants, and lodging nearby.

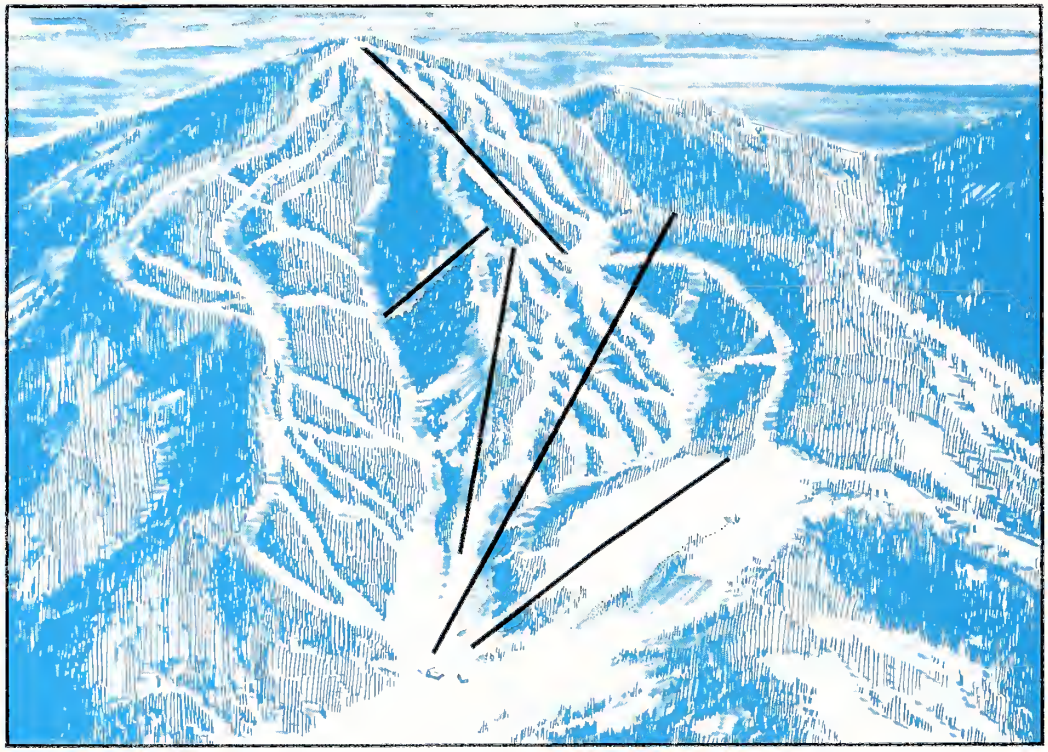
PACKAGES: 1) 7 Days/6 Nights: Includes lodging and 4 days' lift tickets, $135/person. 2) 5 Days/4 Nights: Includes lodging and 4 days' lift tickets, $110/person. 3) 3 Days/2 Nights: Includes lodging and lift tickets, $52/person. (Above rates are based on double occupancy for lodging. Transportation to and from the ski area is included from Dillon.)

EVENTS: Torchlight Parade, New Year's Eve. Annual Bikini Race, first Sunday in March.

SKI TOURING: Nordic skiers welcome; additional nordic facilities available nearby at Elkhorn Hot Springs. Snowmobiling is also a popular sport in this area.

MAVERICK MOUNTAIN SKI RESORT

7 Red Lodge Mountain



LOCATION: U.S. 212, 60 miles south of Billings. Fly to Billings, Montana's largest city, and take a rental car or ski bus to Red Lodge.

AREA INFORMATION: Write Red Lodge Mountain, Drawer R, Red Lodge, MT 59068, or call (406) 446-2610. For lodging, call (406) 446-2503; for snow conditions, call (406) 446-2610.

SEASON: November 19 to April 22. Open daily.

AVERAGE ANNUAL SNOWFALL: 250 inches

BASE ELEVATION: 7,400 feet

TOP ELEVATION: 9,416 feet

VERTICAL DROP: 2,016 feet

TRAILS & SLOPES: Red Lodge Mountain has 30 slopes, trails and open meadows on the Custer National Forest in Montana's fabled Beartooth Mountains. Trails cover 25 miles. 15% novice, 60% intermediate, 25% expert.

LONGEST RUN: 2.5 miles

LIFTS: Four double chairs, one triple chair, one mitey-mite.

LIFT CAPACITY: 6,690 per hour

LIFT TICKETS: All-day adult lift ticket is $14 on weekends and weekdays. Groups are invited to inquire about special rates. Credit cards accepted.

LESSONS: Red Lodge Mountain has a ski patrol and a certified ski school with 50 instructors. Rates: $10 for 90-minute group; $17.50 for one-hour private; $23 for G.L.M. Learner's Package (all-day lift, 90-minute lesson, complete rental package).

RENTALS: Complete sales and rental shop. Rates: $10/day, adults; $6/day, children under 12; $8/half-day, adults; $5/half-day, children.

FACILITIES: Accommodations and restaurants run the full range at the foot of the mountain in the lively, western village of Red Lodge. Facilities at the mountain include the Willow Creek saloon and cafeteria at base lodge; a midway chalet serving food, beer and wine; and a summit house.

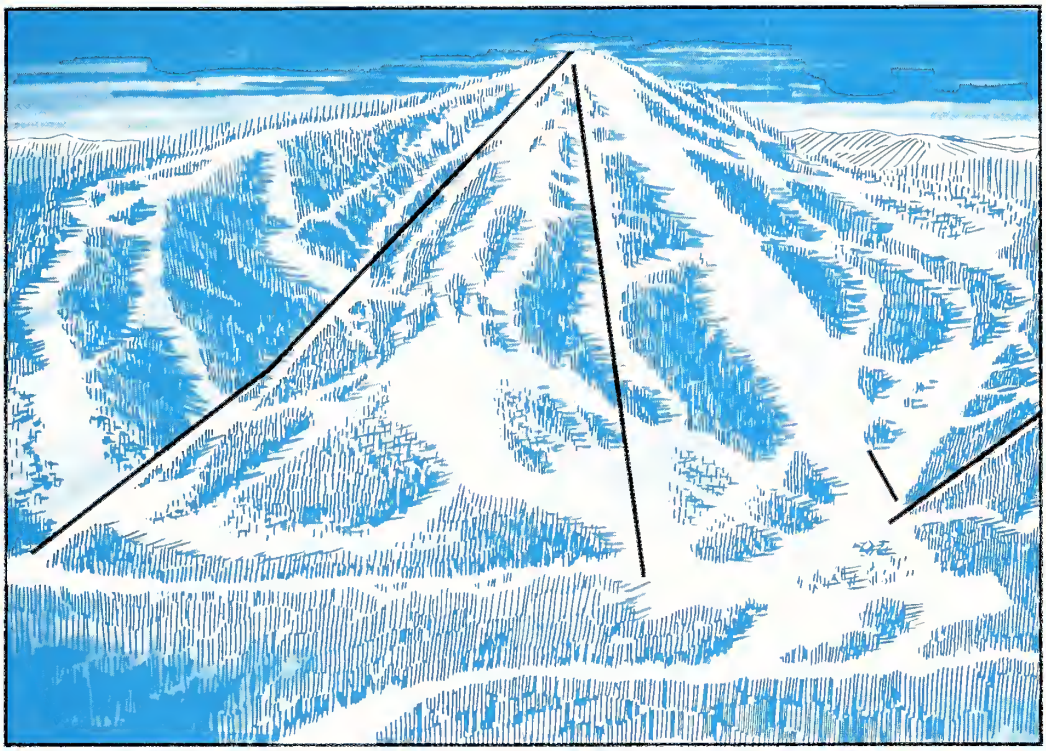
PACKAGES: 1) 2 Nights/3 Days: From $85/person, double occupancy. Includes 2 nights' lodging, 3 days' lifts and transportation to and from Red Lodge and ski area. 2) SKI WEEK: From $185/person, double occupancy. Includes 6 nights' lodging, 5 days' lifts and transportation to and from Red Lodge and ski area.

EVENTS: Bogart's Three-Jump Jackpot, Montana's largest pro race, is scheduled for April 6-7.

SKI TOURING: U.S. Forest Service trails at base of mountain on the West Fork. Nordic downhillers welcome on mountain.

Red Lodge MOUNTAIN

8 Showdown Ski Area



LOCATION: U.S. Highway 89, 8 miles south of Neihart and 60 miles southeast of Great Falls. Weekend and holiday ski bus departs from the Sheraton Great Falls Inn.

AREA INFORMATION: Write Showdown Ski Area, Box 92, Neihart, MT 59465. For information and snow report, call (406) 236-5522.

SEASON: Nov. 19 through April 22. Open Wednesday through Sunday and all holidays.

AVERAGE ANNUAL SNOWFALL: 300 inches

BASE ELEVATION: 6,800 feet

TOP ELEVATION: 8,200 feet

VERTICAL DROP: 1,400 feet

TRAILS & SLOPES: 28 runs of forest-lined trails, open slopes and glades on the Lewis & Clark National Forest. 40% novice, 40% intermediate, 20% expert.

LONGEST RUN: 2 miles

LIFTS: 1 triple chair, 1 double chair, 1 poma-lift, 1 rope tow.

LIFT CAPACITY: 3,000 per hour

LIFT TICKETS: All-day, all-area ski ticket is $10. Children 8 and under ski free. Inquire about group rates. Visa and Mastercard accepted.

LESSONS: 2-hour group lessons, $9; private lessons, $18/hour. Complete Learn-to-Ski packages are available for as little as $17.

RENTALS: $10 per day

FACILITIES: Full-service cafeteria, Hole in the Wall Saloon, ski repair and accessory shop and ski rental shop on the mountain. Certified ski school and professional ski patrol. Lodging is available in Great Falls and White Sulphur Springs.

PACKAGES: 1) 2 Nights/2 Days: $50/person, double. Includes 2 nights Sheraton Great Falls Inn and 2 days' ski tickets. (406) 727-7200. 2) 3 Nights/3 Days: $80.25/person, double. Includes 3 nights at O'Haire Motor Inn, Great Falls, and 3 days' ski tickets. Family rates available. (406) 454-2141. 3) 2 Nights/2 Days: $42/person, double. Includes 2 nights at the Spa Motel, White Sulphur Springs, and 2 days' ski tickets. (406) 547-3366.

EVENTS: Coca Cola Sport Skiing Slalom, every Saturday and Sunday. Montana Special Olympics, February. Belt Creek Headwaters Relay, April.

SKI TOURING: Unlimited cross country and ski touring trails available nearby, some groomed. Telemark skiing at Showdown.

SKI SHOWDOWN

THE BEST-KEPT SECRET IN MONTANA

9 Bear Paw

LOCATION: 30 miles south of Havre, just off U.S. 87, in Beaver Creek Park.

AREA INFORMATION: Write Box 1092, Rocky Boy Rt., Box Elder, MT 59521, or call (406) 395-4278.

SEASON: November to April. Open Thursday through Sunday and holidays, 10 to 5.

BASE ELEVATION: 5,000 feet

VERTICAL DROP: 900 feet

TRAILS & SLOPES: 14 trails for beginner to expert.

LIFTS: 1 double chair.

LIFT TICKETS: $8.50

RENTALS: In Havre

FACILITIES: Cafe and bar at base of hill.

EVENTS: Spring Carnival, late March or early April.

SKI TOURING: Many miles of groomed trails.

10 Wraith Hill

LOCATION: 12 miles west of Anaconda, off Hwy. 10A.

AREA INFORMATION: Write 1914 Haggin Ave., Anaconda, MT 59711, or call (406) 563-3395 or 563-3483.

SEASON: Christmas through March.

BASE ELEVATION: Around 6,000 feet.

TRAILS & SLOPES: Trails from beginner to expert.

LIFTS: One self-loading T-bar; one rope tow on beginners' slope.

LIFT TICKETS: $5 for all-day pass; $2 for beginners on rope tow.

FACILITIES: Snack bar.

SKI TOURING: Available from the area, but no groomed trails or rentals.

11 Beef Trail

LOCATION: Eight miles southwest of Butte.

AREA INFORMATION: Write 2900 Sheridan, Butte, MT 59701, or call (406) 494-7000 or 782-5251.

SEASON: Late November to April.

BASE ELEVATION: 6,000 feet

VERTICAL DROP: 800 feet

TRAILS & SLOPES: Open runs for beginners and intermediates on machine-packed slopes.

LIFTS: T-bar and a rope tow.

LIFT TICKETS: Adults: $5, days; $3.50, nights. Students: $3, days: $1.50, nights.

LESSONS: Four lessons, $15.

RENTALS: Alpine, $9; Nordic, $7.

FACILITIES: Chalet with a snack bar; snowmaking equipment.

EVENTS: City Tournament, first weekend in February (2 days of racing events, unsanctioned).

SKI TOURING: Unlimited nordic skiing, with some groomed trails.

12 Turner Mountain

LOCATION: 22 miles north of Libby on Pipe Creek Road.

AREA INFORMATION: Write Box 210, Libby, MT 59923, or call (406) 293-7531.

SEASON: Usually first part of December through April 15. Open weekends only, except during Christmas season (December 18-January 1). Hours 9:30-4:30.

BASE ELEVATION: 3,800 feet

VERTICAL DROP: 2,100 feet

TRAILS & SLOPES: High intermediate and expert. Excellent powder area, with lots of glade skiing. One run is 5,600 feet long. Five additional runs.

LIFTS: One T-bar, 5,600 feet long.

LIFT TICKETS: $7.50

LESSONS: Available

FACILITIES: Snack bar. Lodging in nearby Libby.

EVENTS: Crazy Days, late March.

SKI TOURING: There are no groomed trails at Turner Mountain, but there is excellent touring around the area with rentals available in Libby.

13 Deep Creek

LOCATION: 43 miles southwest of Butte on Hwy. 274.

AREA INFORMATION: Write the area at Wise River, MT 59762, or call (406) 832-3313.

SEASON: Mid-December to April 1.

AVERAGE ANNUAL SNOWFALL: 50 inches

BASE ELEVATION: 6,080 feet

VERTICAL DROP: 837 feet

TRAILS & SLOPES: 5 miles, beginner to expert.

LIFTS: 1 T-bar

LIFT TICKETS: $7

LESSONS: By appointment.

FACILITIES: Snack bar.

SKI TOURING: Available, but no rentals.

14 Teton Pass

LOCATION: This friendly, family-oriented ski area is 32 miles northwest of Choteau, off Highways 89 & 287, with route clearly marked.

AREA INFORMATION: Write Box 727, Choteau, MT 59422, or call (406) 466-2672 or (406) 467-2789 after October 1.

SEASON: Thanksgiving to Easter. Open 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Friday, Saturday, Sunday and holidays.

BASE ELEVATION: 6,000 feet

VERTICAL DROP: 1,200 feet

TRAILS & SLOPES: 6 beginner, 9 intermediate, all machine packed; 6 expert — 1 packed and 5 powder. In excess of 7-8 miles of trails.

LIFTS: Double chair, poma, mitey-mite.

LIFT TICKETS: $9 adults; $5.50 students.

LESSONS: Individual, group and GLM packages.

RENTALS: Rental, repair and sales shop. Rates: $10/day for complete rental package.

FACILITIES: Day lodge with eating area and bar. Lodging available in Choteau or at the 7 Lazy P dude ranch, phone (406) 466-2044.

EVENTS: Winter Carnival, January. Fun Day, early April.

SKI TOURING: 15 miles of groomed trails. Volunteer ski patrol. Limited rentals. No sales of equipment.

15 Belmont

LOCATION: 25 miles northwest of Helena on Hwy. 279, then 1.5 miles above the ghost town of Marysville on a well-plowed road.

AREA INFORMATION: Write 5120 Hidden Valley Drive, Helena, MT 59601. During winter, call (406) 443-9953 Thursday through Sunday.

SEASON: Mid-December through mid-April. Open 9:30-4 Thursday through Sunday. Open daily through Christmas holidays and all holidays during season.

AVERAGE ANNUAL SNOWFALL: 130 inches

BASE ELEVATION: 5,800 feet

VERTICAL DROP: 1,500 feet

TRAILS & SLOPES: Variety of slopes. Four trails, two open slopes. Up to 1 mile in length. 20% beginner, 55% intermediate, 25% expert.

LIFTS: 1 T-bar, 1 poma lift, 2 rope tows.

LIFT TICKETS: $9 adults, $6 juniors for all day; $7 adults, $4 juniors for half-day.

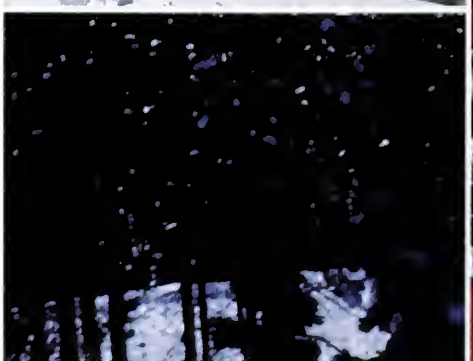
LESSONS: $8 for class lessons; $10/person/hour for private lessons.

RENTALS: Available in Helena; none at the area.

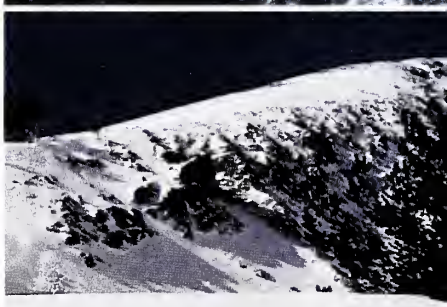
FACILITIES: Day lodge with food. Warming hut at the top of the mountain.

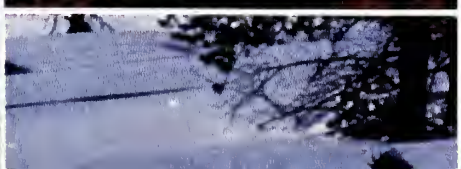
SKI TOURING: In the area, but no groomed trails or patrols.

MONTANA...
BIG SNOW COUNTRY



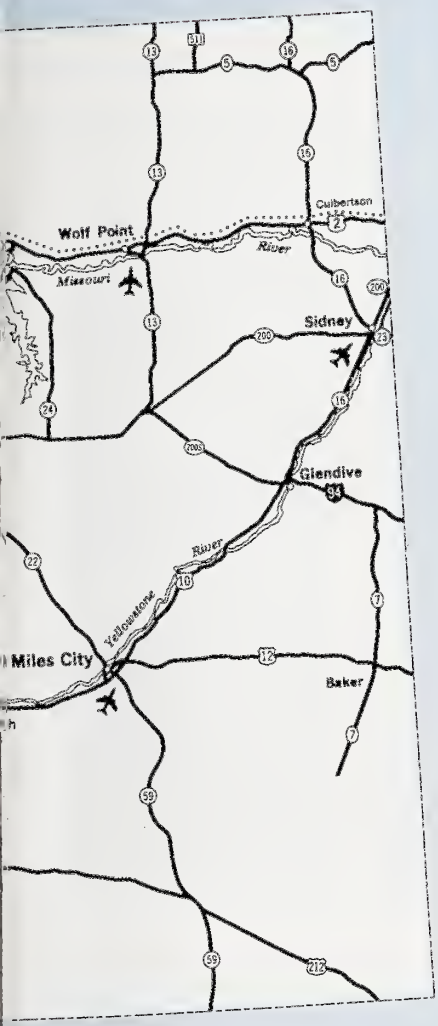
Background photo: Lone Mountain dominates the winter skyline south of Bozeman, Garry Wunderwald; Skiing is a family sport in Montana, William R. Sallaz, courtesy of The Big Mountain; See Montana up close with skinny skis and a backpack, Jerry Manley; Spring skiing, Montana-style, William R. Sallaz; Nordic skiers from throughout the country compete annually in West Yellowtone's Great American Ski Chase, Garry Wunderwald; Modern facilities and equipment await you in Montana, Garry Wunderwald; Ski the Sky, Garry Wunderwald; Enjoy the comforts you deserve after a vigorous day on the slopes, William R. Sallaz, courtesy of The Big Mountain: Montana is famous for its high, dry, powder snow, courtesy of Big Sky of Montana.





1 The Big Mountain
2 Big Sky of Montana
3 Bridger Bowl
4 Lost Trail Ski Area
5 Marshall Ski Area
6 Maverick Mountain
7 Red Lodge Mountain
8 Showdown Ski Area
9 Bear Paw
10 Wraith Hill
11 Beef Trail
12 Turner Mountain
13 Deep Creek
14 Teton Pass
15 Belmont
16 Bear Creek Ranch
17 Desert Mountain Ranch and Resort
18 Double Arrow Ranch
19 Holland Lake Lodge
20 Crosscut Ranch
21 Lone Mountain Ranch
22 Montana Double Diamond Guest Ranch
23 Sundance Lodge
24 Izaak Walton Inn
25 Lost Trail Hot Springs Resort

Getting There



26 Lolo Hot Springs

27 Jackson Hot Springs Resort

28 Fairmont Hot Springs Resort

29 Chico Hot Springs Resort

30 Elkhorn Hot Springs Resort

31 Glacier National Park

32 Yellowstone National Park

Getting to Montana is easy. Interstate and state highways are kept in good condition during the winter. AMTRAK serves northern Montana. Bus companies and car rentals exist in quantity and major airlines serve major cities and towns, with smaller airlines making good connections.

Highways are plowed and sanded when necessary during the winter. Motorists can get weather information and up-to-the-minute road condition reports on all radio stations every morning, with current information broadcast frequently throughout the day. In the state, phone toll-free 1-800-332-6171 for the latest road conditions; out-of-state phone 406-444-2675. Latest road conditions for roads within about a 100-mile radius of each of the following cities can be obtained by phoning 406-252-2806 for Billings; 406-586-1313 for Bozeman; 406-494-3666 for Butte; 406-453-2231 for Great Falls; 406-444-2641 for Helena; 406-755-4949 for Kalispell and 406-728-8553 for Missoula.

AMTRAK parallels U.S. 2 through northern Montana, with daily stops at Libby, West Glacier, Whitefish, Glacier Park and points east. Call AMTRAK at 1-800-421-8320 for additional information.

Car rentals and bus service are available in all major cities and many smaller ones.

The following airlines serve Montana with scheduled flights:

Billings	Northwest Orient, Western, Frontier, Big Sky
Bozeman	Northwest Orient, Frontier, Western
Butte	Northwest Orient, Western, Cascade Airways
Glasgow	Big Sky
Glendive	Big Sky
Great Falls	Northwest Orient, Western, Frontier, Big Sky
Havre	Big Sky
Helena	Northwest Orient, Western, Frontier
Kalispell	Frontier, Western
Lewistown	Big Sky
Miles City	Big Sky
Missoula	Northwest Orient, Frontier, Western, Cascade Airways
Sidney	Big Sky
Wolf Point	Big Sky

For ski conditions and area information, call

(406) 449-2654

(After December 1983, call 444-2654)

Non-residents call toll free:

1-800-548-3390

Photo courtesy of the Montana Historical Society

This old photograph of Upper Geyser Basin in Yellowstone National Park was taken in January 1887 by pioneer photographer Jack Haynes. Winter trips through Yellowstone at that time were so unusual that Haynes advertised his mid-winter views as the "beautiful results of several weeks' perilous work . . . sights rarely seen by man."

Winter trips are no longer either unusual or perilous, but the views are still beautiful and the sights, for all but Nordic skiers, are still uncommon. No other travel opens the winter landscape quite as satisfactorily as cross-country ski travel can, with only the silken swoosh-swoosh of skis to accent the stillness.

16 Bear Creek Ranch

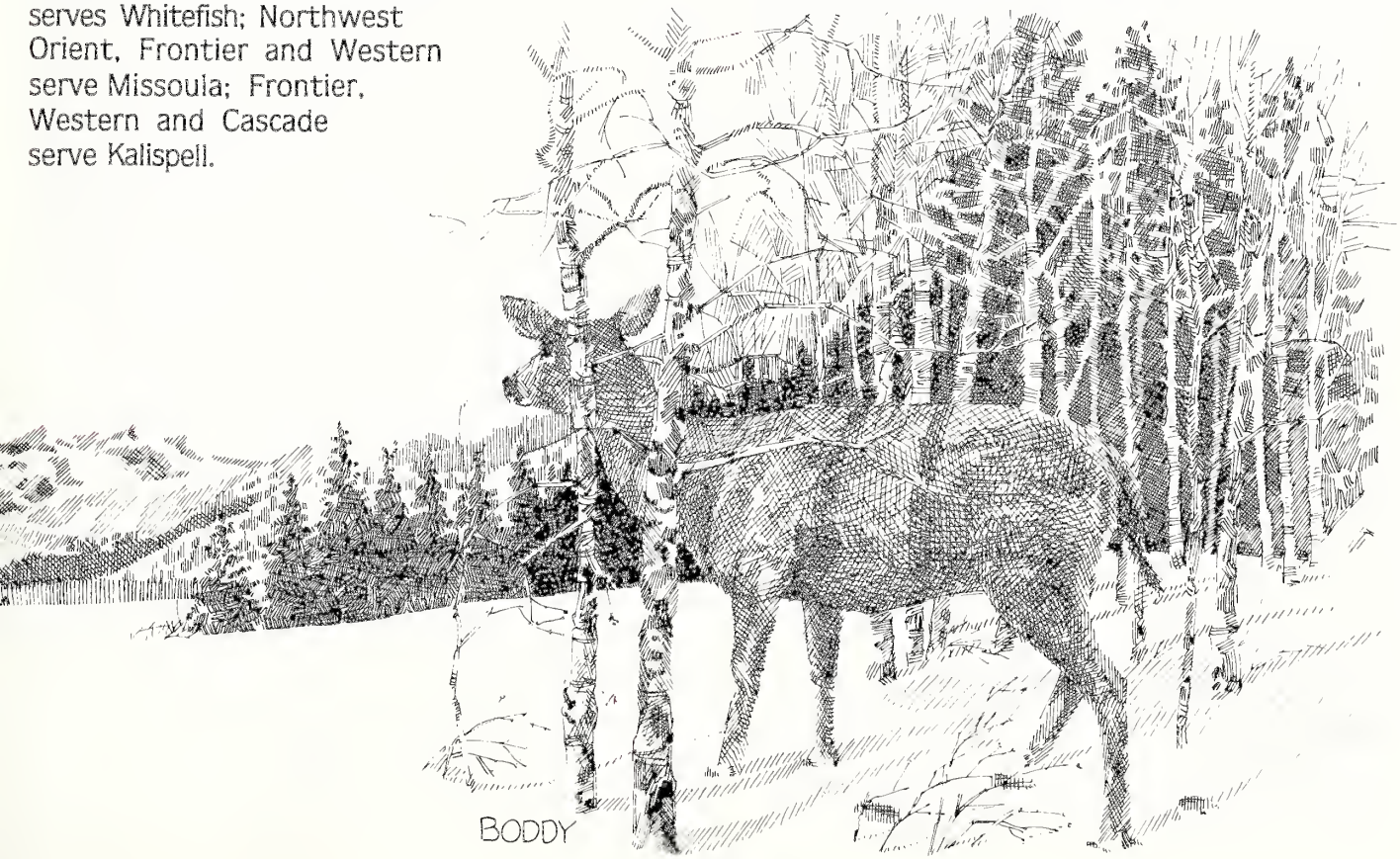
17 miles west of East Glacier on U.S. Highway 2. Phone (406) 226-4489, or write to Box 151, East Glacier, MT 59434. Reservations required. Ski from December to April in Glacier National Park, directly adjacent to the ranch, or in the Great Bear Wilderness. Stay in cabins or the lodge and eat family-style in our dining room. Rates are from $44 up and include accommodations, meals, ski instruction and transportation from Glacier International Airport in Kalispell or the AMTRAK station in West Glacier. Served by both Frontier and Western Airlines.

17 Desert Mountain Ranch and Resort

Four miles west of West Glacier on U.S. 2, then one-half mile south on a well-marked road. Phone (406) 387-5610, or write Desert Mountain at Box 157, West Glacier, MT 59936. Ski Thanksgiving to March on 29 miles of groomed trails. Lodging in cabins and lodge suites. A weekend special is available. Dining, hot tub, heated pool, sauna, ski rentals. Two days of sled dog races in mid-January. Car rentals in Missoula, Kalispell and Whitefish. AMTRAK serves Whitefish; Northwest Orient, Frontier and Western serve Missoula; Frontier, Western and Cascade serve Kalispell.

18 Double Arrow Ranch

Located at the south end of the beautiful Seeley-Swan Valley, the Double Arrow Ranch provides almost unlimited nordic skiing in some of Montana's most pristine backcountry. In addition to its own network of groomed trails, the Double Arrow provides trail access to the Rattlesnake Wilderness and to an extensive network of marked and groomed trails maintained by the U.S. Forest Service. The ranch also provides instruction, cross country ski and snowmobile rentals and guided overnight or 3-day trips into the primitive areas bordering both the Rattlesnake and Bob Marshall Wilderness areas. There is a small, 1,000 foot cable tow for family-type downhill skiing at the ranch. Horseback riding, horse drawn sleigh rides daily, sledding, ice skating rink, steak and hot buttered rum cookouts weekly, hot tub and special lodge activities. There are 24 cabins, 8 condominiums, plus a lodge complete with dining room and lounge. Rates are $36, double occupancy, which includes breakfast, for the cabins, and $85 to $100 per day for condominiums, which sleep six. Fly Northwest, Frontier or Western to Missoula and rent a car for the 50-mile drive to the ranch, or arrange with the ranch for transportation. Phone (406) 677-2204 or write Drawer E, Seeley Lake, MT 59868.



19 Holland Lake Lodge

Located in the Swan Valley between the Mission and Swan ranges on the west edge of the Bob Marshall Wilderness, Holland Lake Lodge is 20 miles north of Seeley Lake, just off Highway 83. Phone (406) 754-2282 or write the lodge at Condon, MT 59826. Ski from mid-December to April on groomed and marked trails or on packed snowmobile trails and loop roads. Accommodations for two in the beautifully restored, rustic lodge are $25 per night. There is a restaurant and a bar and trail lunches are available. Ski rentals are also available. Instructions and guided ski trips can be arranged. Fly Northwest, Frontier or Western to Missoula or Frontier, Western or Cascade to Kalispell, and rent a car. Holland Lake Lodge is located halfway between.

20 Crosscut Ranch

Just 15 miles north of Bozeman at the base of Bridger Bowl, the Crosscut offers the best of both worlds: groomed, nordic trails and great alpine skiing at nearby Bridger Bowl. Write the Crosscut at P.O. Box 398, Bozeman, MT 59715 or call (406) 587-3122 for more information. At the ranch, ski more than 20 km of nordic trails, groomed daily, or let one of the ranch's six teams of Belgian draft horses transport you and your gear to Bridger Bowl via bobsled or surrey. The ski shop carries nordic rental equipment and a PSIA certified ski school offers lessons and special programs for adults and children. In the evening, relax near a crackling fire in the lodge or take a moonlight sleighride to Belgian Meadow Camp for refreshments by the fire. Rates range from $67 per person for one night to $425 per person for seven nights, with lower rates per person for doubles and families or groups. Rates include breakfast and dinner, transportation to and from Bridger Bowl and Bozeman airline and bus terminals, and use of the ranch's facilities including sauna, ski trails, sleighrides and entertainment.

21 Lone Mountain Ranch

40 miles south of Bozeman, 20 miles northwest of Yellowstone National Park, at Big Sky. Phone (406) 995-4644, or write Box 145, Big Sky, MT 59716. Reservations are mandatory. Ski from early December to mid-April on 40 miles of meticulously groomed and double-tracked ski trails. There are ranch-style accommodations for 45 in individual log cabins with fireplaces, and informally served gourmet meals in the historic dining hall. Naturalist-guided ski tours are organized three times a week into Yellowstone Park and the Spanish Peaks, and overnight trips into Yellowstone can be arranged. Helicopter nordic skiing is planned weekly and is the highlight of many guests' visit. A one-week package (seven nights) including all meals, lodging, trail fees, airport transportation and all ranch activities, is $485 per person, double occupancy. Also included is a mule-drawn sleigh ride to the North Fork cabin, where you will enjoy dinner prepared on an old-fashioned wood stove, and every Friday, there is a spectacular on-the-snow gourmet lunch buffet. Evening entertainment, a bar, an outdoor, wood-fired hot tub, ski lessons, rentals and a complete nordic shop round out the full range of services offered. Northwest Orient, Frontier and Western serve Bozeman; from there, the ranch provides transportation. Lone Mountain celebrates Montana's winter season with three separate events: St. Nick's Nordic Festival, Dec. 11, a fun day with kids' games, relays, free nordic instruction and an open house; "The Viking's Rivalry," Feb. 4, a citizens' cross-country ski race, and the Mad Wolf Classic, March 11, a telemark and track race.

22 Montana Double Diamond Guest Ranch

Located in the Swan Valley, 40 miles north of Clearwater Junction between the 40 and 41 mile markers on Highway 83. Turn at the sign and drive one mile. Phone (406) 754-2351 or write Box 501, Condon, MT 59826. Reservations required. Ski from December to April on marked trails, almost unlimited U.S. Forest Service land, clear-cut areas for open skiing and a small hill for telemark skiing. New ski hut system open this year. Lodge accommodations and family-style dining, western bar. Ski rentals and bar are extra. Write or call for brochure, rates and reservations. Fly Frontier, Western or Cascade to Kalispell or Northwest, Frontier or Western to Missoula. Rent a car or arrange with the ranch for pick-up service.

23 Sundance Lodge

Four miles west of Highway 274 between Wise River and Wisdom, off Highway 43. Phone (406) 689-3611, or write the lodge at Wise River, MT 59762. Ski from Thanksgiving through March in the adjacent Pintlar Mountains on U.S. Forest Service trails and on 255 acres at the ranch. Separate trails for skiers and snowmobilers. Rooms in the lodge are $34 per day, cabins are $40 to $44 per day. No fee charged for skiing. Restaurant, bar and ski rentals. Fly Northwest or Western to Butte and rent a car there.

...or a Country Inn

24 Izaak Walton Inn

On U.S. 2 midway between East and West Glacier. Ask Operator for Essex No. 1, or write Box 653, Essex, MT 59916. Ski from Thanksgiving to mid-April on trails from the front door into Glacier National Park, Flathead National Forest or the Great Bear Wilderness Area. Lodge rooms are in an old railroad inn, and the attractions include a home-style menu, a bar and a Finnish sauna. Rentals and instruction are available. A center for ski mountaineering and cross-country, the inn charges $25 a night for two people. Northwest Orient, Frontier, Western and Continental serve Great Falls; Frontier, Western and Cascade serve Kalispell. Car rentals are available in these cities and at Whitefish. AMTRAK serves West Glacier and Whitefish.

25 Lost Trail Hot Springs Resort

Six miles north of Lost Trail Pass on U.S. 93. Phone (406) 821-3574 or write to Box 37, Sula, MT 59871. Ski from mid-December to the end of March on miles of groomed trails from the lodge or unlimited U.S. Forest Service land. Downhill skiing is available nearby at Lost Trail Ski Area on Lost Trail Pass. At the end of the day, enjoy a relaxing swim in the outdoor pool, an indoor whirlpool spa or a soothing sauna. The restaurant overlooking the pool offers excellent dining and drinks, which are also served by the fireplace. Accommodations include lodges for groups, cabins and deluxe motel rooms. Ask about our alpine and nordic ski packages and 3-day weekend rates. Fly to Missoula via Northwest, Frontier, Western or Cascade, and rent a car there. Inquire about bus service from Missoula to Lost Trail.

26 Lolo Hot Springs

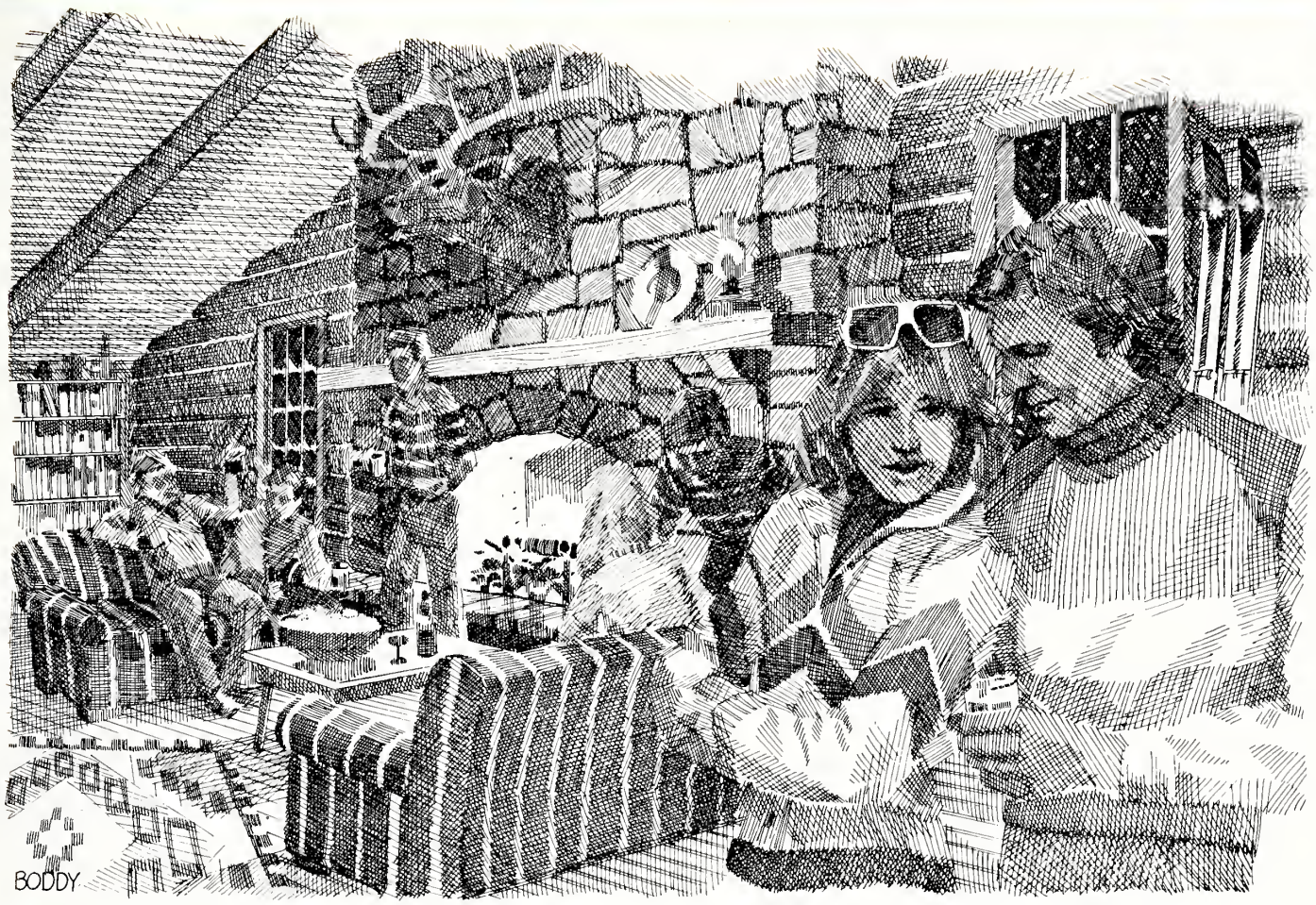
On U.S. 12, 35 miles from Missoula off U.S. 93. Phone 406/273-2290, or write Lolo Hot Springs, Lolo, MT 59847. Ski from Thanksgiving to April on groomed and marked trails. Lodging in the hotel and cottages is $27 for a double bed and two people, and $35 for two beds and four people. Room charges include swimming. Instruction and guided trips by arrangement. Restaurant, bar, gift shop and truck stop. Two indoor hot pools and one outdoor. Fly to Missoula via Northwest Orient, Frontier, or Western, and rent a car there.

27 Jackson Hot Springs Lodge

48 miles from Lost Trail Pass and 18 miles from Wisdom, on Highway 278. Phone (406) 834-2141, or write Box 808, Jackson, MT 59736. Ski from early November to mid-April on extensive ski trails, some marked and intermittently groomed. Ski and snowmobile trails are separate. No fee for skiing. Lodging in 18 cabins with fireplaces. Rates are $24 per night for one person, $28 per night for two people, and $4 for each additional person in room. No rentals or instruction. Cafe/bar. One large, enclosed, hot springs pool.

28 Fairmont Hot Springs Resort

Just off I-90, take exit 211 west of Butte. Phone (406) 797-3241, or write Fairmont Hot Springs Resort, Anaconda, MT 59711. Ski from December until April right at the resort, at nearby Discovery Basin or the Georgetown Lake area for cross-country trails, or arrange for snowmobile trips into an overnight backcountry destination for a cross-country ski out. Accommodations in 160 rooms and suites. Dining room and coffee shop, cocktail lounge, gift shop. Four hot mineral water pools, indoor and out. Saunas. No fee for nordic skiing. Nordic ski and snowmobile rentals. Northwest Orient and Western serve Butte, with car rentals available and, on request, Fairmont bus service from the terminal.



29 Chico Hot Springs Resort

26 miles south of Livingston and 29 miles north of Yellowstone National Park on U.S. 89. Turn at Emigrant. Phone (406) 333-4411 or 333-4490, or write Chico Hot Springs at Pray, MT 59065. Take a guided, all-day nordic ski trip into Yellowstone, tour Emigrant Gulch, ski 15 miles of marked trails or ski right around the resort. Inquire about heli-skiing in the magnificent Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness. Ski from December to mid-April. Rentals and sales, guided trips and private or group lessons are available. Chico is famous throughout the region for its dining room. After a day on the trail and a superlative dinner, enjoy the mineral hot springs — one open pool and one enclosed. Accommodations range from deluxe condominiums to rooms in the old inn, Continental style with the bathroom down the hall. Rates range from $110 per night for a condominium that sleeps 10, to $34, double occupancy, for a room in the inn with a private bath, to $26, double occupancy, for a room with a bath down the hall. Fly to Bozeman via Northwest Orient, Frontier or Western and rent a car or arrange for pick-up by Chico.

30 Elkhorn Hot Springs Resort

About 26 miles from Dillon on Highway 278. Turn on the marked road, then 13 miles. Phone (406) 834-3434, or write Box 514, Polaris, MT 59746. Ski from Thanksgiving to the end of March on 40 km of groomed cross-country trails laid out on a marked cloverleaf, or to the top of Comet Mountain, or to the old Elkhorn Mine. For experts, there's an on-your-own mountaineering trip to a ghost town. Guided overnight nordic trips can be arranged, by reservation only. No fee for trails. No snowmobiling is permitted on cross-country trails, but you can snowmobile on about one hundred miles of groomed logging roads. Rates in the cabins (no water) are $16 per night for two. Restaurant, bar, Grecian sauna. Two outdoor hot mineral pools. Fly Northwest or Western to Butte, and rent a car there.

31 Glacier National Park

On the Montana-Canada border in northwestern Montana. 16 designated trails with spectacular scenery, uncrowded country and varied terrain. Snowmobiles are prohibited, and trails are quiet with wildlife to watch. Best skiing is on the west side and off U.S. 2 on the south rim of the park; east-side skiing trails are often subject to strong winds, and some are too long for day outings. None of Glacier's trails is maintained and can become difficult to ski under adverse weather conditions. Some of the trails and much of the backcountry are subject to avalanche danger. For information, write the Superintendent, Glacier National Park, West Glacier, MT 59936, or phone park headquarters at (406) 888-5441, Apgar Information Center (open weekends) at (406) 888-5512, or East Glacier at (406) 226-4473.

32 Yellowstone National Park

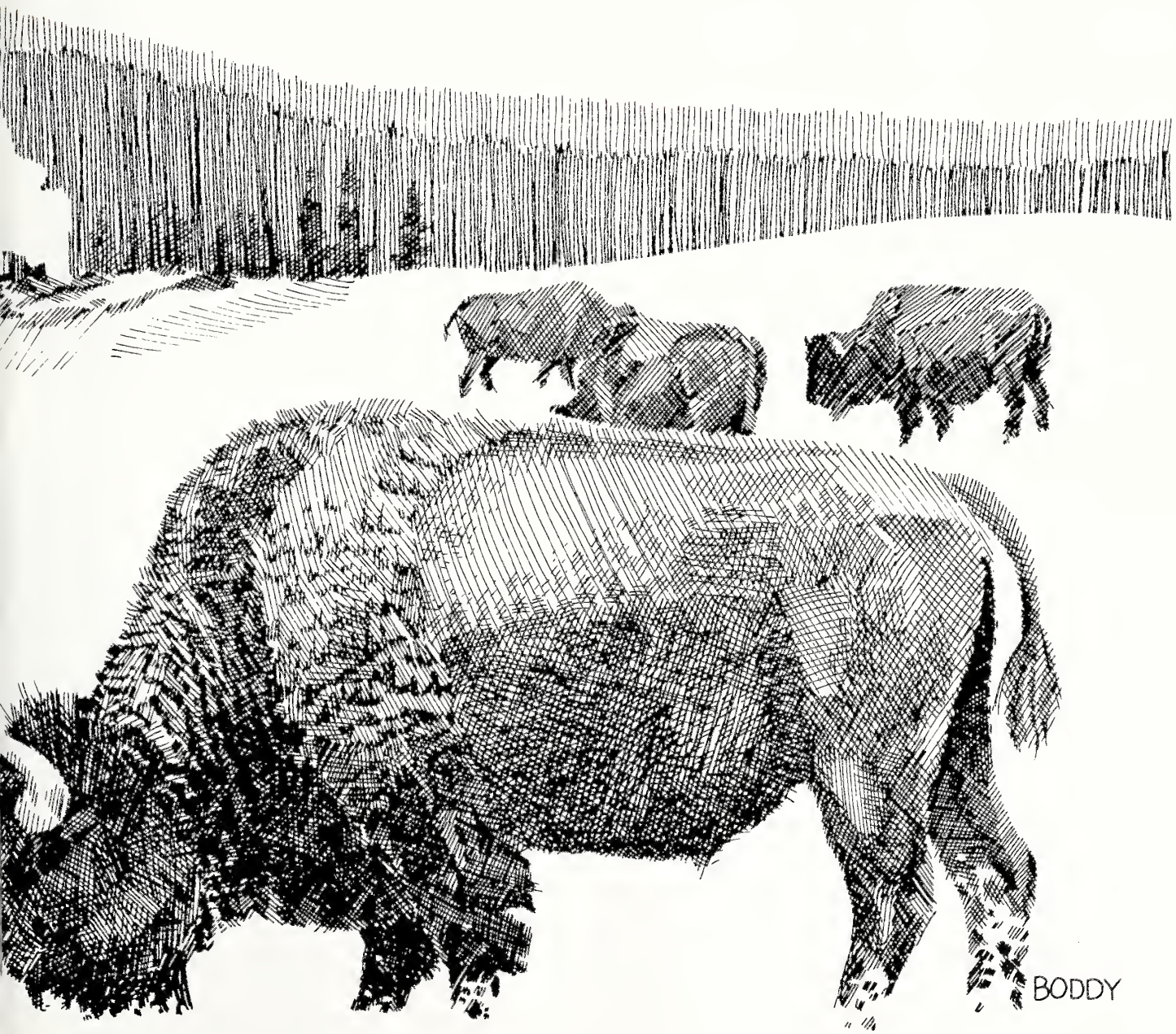
Reached in the winter through the Montana entrances at Gardiner and West Yellowstone, as well as the south and east entrances. Fine cross-country skiing around Old Faithful with accommodations at Snow Lodge. Visitors can ski in from West Yellowstone, take a snowmobile or ride a Yellowstone snowcoach for day or overnight. The famed geysers are even more spectacular in winter than in summer, the crowds have subsided and wintering wildlife — deer, elk, buffalo and an occasional moose or coyote — are thrilling to see and photograph. Further north, there are some good nordic trails in the Canyon area. Good skiing is also available on snowfields and trails between Mammoth and Cooke City. Food and lodging are available at Mammoth Hot Springs. Nordic tours and instruction are available at the Snow Lodge or at Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel. Cross-country skiers are welcome to ski anywhere in the Park. Camping permits are required by the National Park Service for overnight trips. For reservations at Old Faithful Snow Lodge or Mammoth Hot Springs, write Yellowstone Park Division, TWA Services, Inc., Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190, or phone (307) 344-7311. For information about skiing in the Park, write the Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190 or phone (307) 344-7381.

In addition to the nordic services offered by TWA in the park, there are two privately operated nordic guide and rental services in West Yellowstone. **Yellowstone Alpen Guides,** with headquarters in the Best Western Executive Inn, offer guided day trips into the park, via snowcoach, and packages for extended visits in the West Yellowstone-Yellowstone Park area. Day trips include transportation into and out of the park, lunch and guide service. Rates are

$65/day/adult; $40/day/children under 12, and $50/day/person for groups of eight or more. A package tour includes four nights' lodging, two days of skiing in the park, one day of skiing in the West Yellowstone area and two lunches for $160 per person, double occupancy, or $200 per person, single occupancy. Rentals are available. For more information, write Yellowstone Alpen Guides, Box 518, West Yellowstone, MT 59758, or call (406) 646-9591.

If you prefer to go on your own, rent a specially adapted snow machine from **Yellowstone Rendezvous** and ski the groomed trails of your choice inside the park. The snowmachines accommodate two skiers and come equipped with ski racks on the back. Rentals and guide service are also available. For rates and more information, write Yellowstone Rendezvous, 128 Madison Avenue, West Yellowstone, MT 59758, or call (406) 646-7712.

One of the nation's great nordic events — the Yellowstone Rendezvous Great American Ski Chase — takes place just outside the park every year in West Yellowstone. This year, the Ski Chase is scheduled for March 10. Nordic skiers from around the country will compete in the Yellowstone Rendezvous race, one of nine marathon races sanctioned by the U.S. Ski Association.



Ski on Your Own

If you have sufficient skills to take to the hills in true ski touring style, Montana has some splendid offerings. Most U.S. Forest Service ski touring trails are only intermittently groomed and are rarely patrolled, so standard ski-touring practices are the rule: Travel in groups of not less than four; carry an extra ski tip; prepare for an unexpected night out and be alert to avalanche potential. Check with local ranger districts for current conditions. And learn the ski trail signs:

caution

trail closed

emergency telephone

easiest

more difficult

most difficult

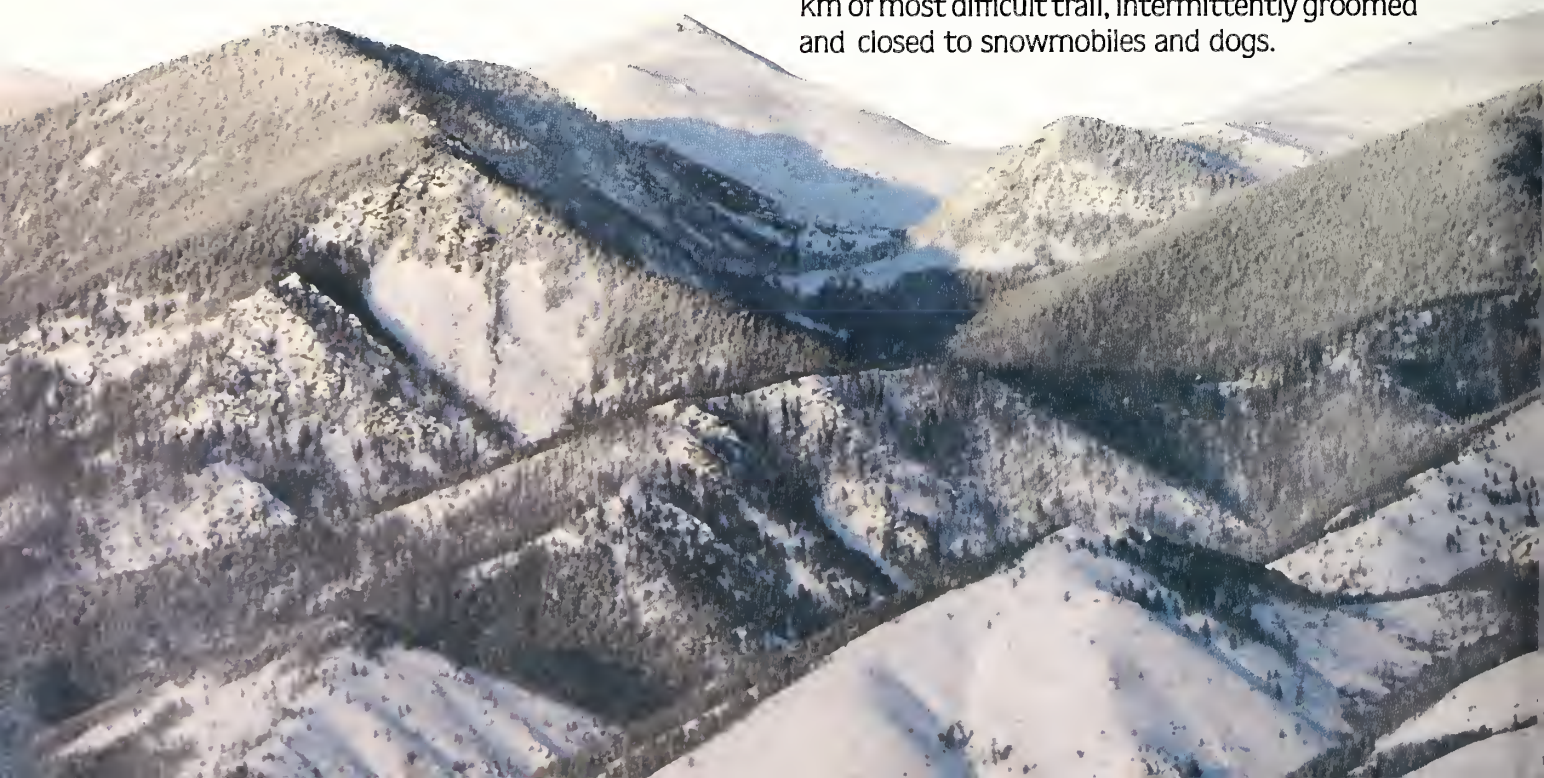
In the Beaverhead National Forest, from Elkhorn Hot Springs, ski the Grasshopper Ridge Trail, 10 km of difficult trail, and the Elkhorn Loop Trail, 15.4 km of easiest and more difficult trail. Both trails originate at Elkhorn Hot Springs and are intermittently groomed. Other ungroomed trails originate on Chief Joseph Pass along Hwy. 43.

In the Bitterroot National Forest, a trail from the Lost Trail Pass Ski Area ending on U.S. 93 provides telemarking through the Saddle Mountain Burn later in the season.

In the Deerlodge National Forest, there are 36 km of trails in the Philipsburg-Georgetown Lake area. At Black Pine, an old mining town 5 miles northwest of Philipsburg, ski 11.5 km of difficult trails. At Discovery Ski Basin, there are 18 km of intermediate trails. And at Georgetown Lake, ski the 6.5 km Lodge Pole Trail for intermediate skiers.

In the Lolo and Clearwater National Forests, ski from Lolo Pass on five intermittently groomed trails covering 45 km for all ability levels. There are an additional 17 km of trails originating from Lolo Pass that are intermittently groomed. All of these nordic trails, along with snowshoe and snowmobile trails, comprise the **Lolo Pass Winter Sports Area,** southwest of Missoula on U.S. 12 at the Montana-Idaho border. There are no services atop the pass, but food and lodging are just a few miles away. A Visitor Center at the pass is open from Friday through Monday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., November 15 through March. Idaho "Park & Ski" stickers are required to park in the lot at the top of the pass.

In the Lolo National Forest, Pattee Canyon Complex 5.5 miles southeast of Missoula has 1.5 km of easy trail, 2.8 km of more difficult and 5.7 km of most difficult trail, all intermittently groomed and closed to snowmobiling. The Holloman/Plant Creek Loop Trail 13 miles southeast of Missoula is 13 km of more difficult trail, intermittently groomed. The Seeley Creek Complex on the north edge of Seeley Lake has 21.5 km of easy trail, 31 km of more difficult and 50 km of most difficult trail, intermittently groomed and closed to snowmobiles and dogs.



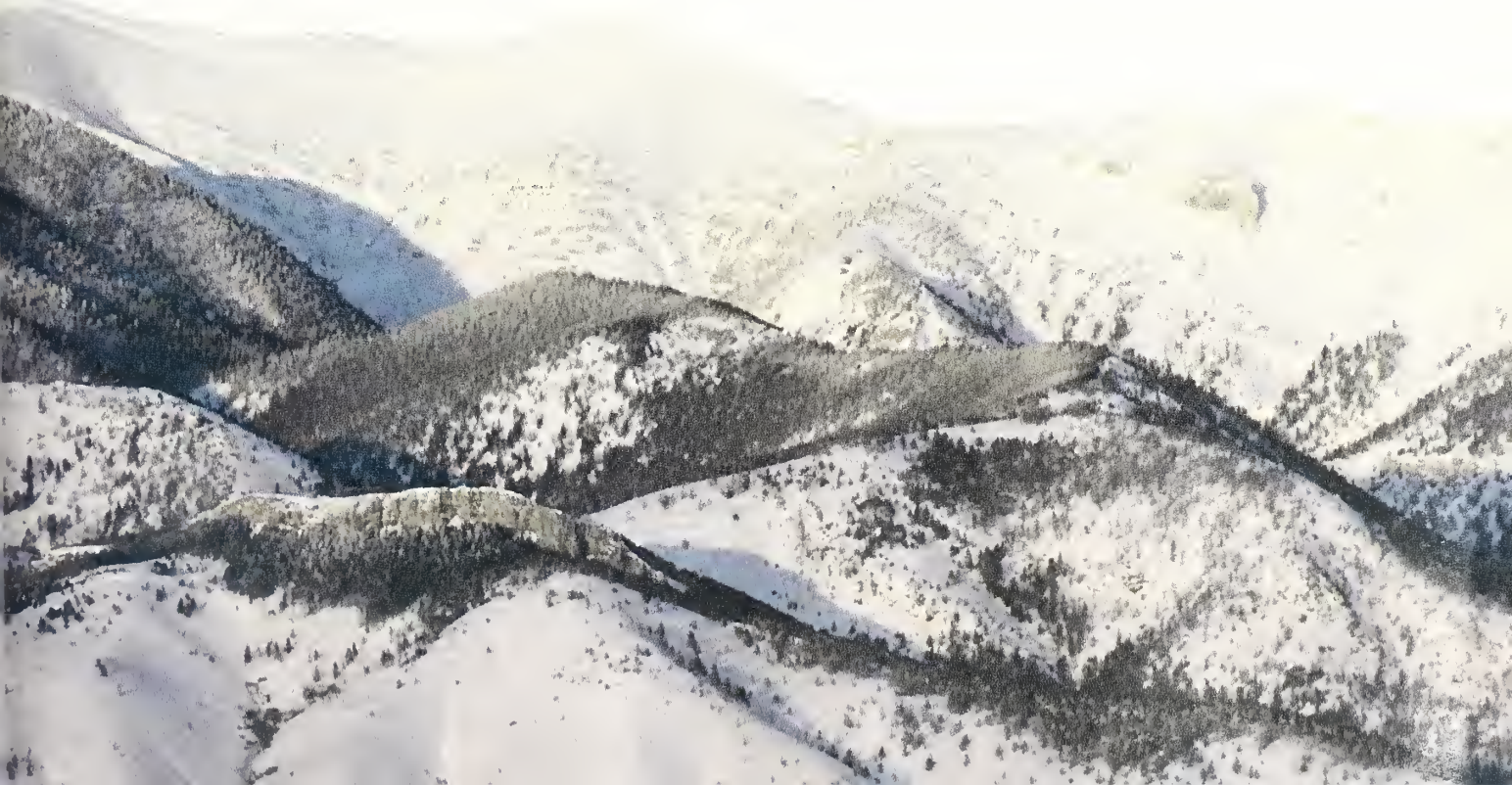
In the Flathead National Forest, ski from the Izaak Walton Inn on the Essex Trail Complex for 22 km of easy trail, 6.6 km of more difficult and 5 km of most difficult trail, intermittently groomed and closed to snowmobiles. Ski Round Meadows, 15 miles northwest of Whitefish, for 15.6 km of easy trail, 5 km of more difficult and 2 km of most difficult, all intermittently groomed and closed to snowmobiles. Cedar Lake Trail, 3.5 miles north of Columbia Falls, is 9 km of more difficult trail, intermittently groomed, dogs not allowed.

In the Gallatin National Forest, ski Stone Creek Trail, 11 miles northeast of Bozeman, for 6 km of easy trail, intermittently groomed and closed to snowmobiles. Bozeman Creek Loop, seven miles south of Bozeman at the forest boundary, is 14.5 km of more difficult trail, intermittently groomed and closed to snowmobiles. Rendezvous Trail, at the southwest edge of West Yellowstone, is 9.1 km of easiest, 6.3 km of more difficult and 7 km of most difficult trail, groomed weekly. This system consists of 5 trails, dogs and snowmobiles prohibited.

In the Helena National Forest, the MacDonald Pass Trail, 15 miles west of Helena, offers 3.6 km of easy, 2.8 km of more difficult and 5.2 km of most difficult trail, all intermittently groomed and closed to snowmobiles.

In the Kootenai National Forest, Old Sears Flat Trail, 6.1 miles west of Troy, is 3.5 km of easy trail, intermittently groomed and closed to snowmobiles and dogs. Bear Creek Trail, five miles south of Libby, is 2.3 km of easy trail, 1.8 km of more difficult and 1.4 km of most difficult trail, intermittently groomed. Bad Medicine Trail, 17 miles south of Troy, offers 5.8 km of more difficult trail with intermittent grooming; parking available. This trail follows the shoreline of Bull Lake. The Ross Creek Trail, 17 miles south of Troy, has 8 km of easiest and 4.5 km of most difficult trails, with motor vehicles prohibited after December 1.

Write or call these USFS offices in Montana for more information: **Beaverhead National Forest,** 610 North Montana Avenue, Dillon, MT 59725. Phone 406/683-2312. **Bitterroot National Forest,** 316 N. Third, Hamilton, MT 59840. Phone 406/363-3131. **Deerlodge National Forest,** Federal Building, P.O. Box 400, Butte, MT 59703. Phone 406/723-6561, ext. 2351. **Flathead National Forest,** 1935 3rd Ave. East, Kalispell, MT 59901. Phone 406/755-5401. **Gallatin National Forest,** Box 130, Bozeman, MT 59715. Phone 406/587-4233. **Helena National Forest,** Federal Building, Helena, MT 59626. Phone 406/449-5201. **Kootenai National Forest,** P.O. Box AS., Libby, MT 59923. Phone 406/293-6211. **Lolo National Forest,** Building 24, Ft. Missoula, Missoula, MT 59801. Phone 406/329-3557. For a complete listing of ski touring trails on National Forest lands in Montana, write Northern Region USFS, P.O. Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807, or call (406) 329-3711.



Carnivals, Races and Other Festive Events

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
DECEMBER		
11	St. Nick's Nordic Festival	Lone Mountain Ranch
31	Torchlight Parade	Maverick Mountain
31	New Year's Eve Torchlight Parade	Bridger Bowl
JANUARY		
13-15	Western Winter Carnival	Big Sky of Montana
mid-month	Sled Dog Races	Desert Mountain Ranch & Resort
	Winter Carnival	Teton Pass
FEBRUARY		
3-5	Whitefish Winter Carnival	The Big Mountain
4	The Viking's Rivalry	Lone Mountain Ranch
1st weekend	City Tournament	Beef Trail
10-12	Winter Carnival	Bridger Bowl
11-12	U.S. Ski Association Hellgate Cup Race	Marshall Mountain
13	Fun Beverage/KJJR Sweetheart Race	The Big Mountain
	Salmon Chamber Giant Slalom	Lost Trail
	Montana Special Olympics	Showdown
MARCH		
1st Sunday	Annual Bikini Race	Maverick Mountain
10	Great American Ski Chase	West Yellowstone
11	Mad Wolf Classic	Lone Mountain Ranch
17	Bash for Cash	The Big Mountain
17-18	Spring Fling	Bridger Bowl
late-month	Crazy Days	Turner Mountain
late-month/ early April	Spring Carnival	Bear Paw
APRIL		
6-7	Bogart's Three-Jump Jackpot	Red Lodge Mountain
early-month	Fun Day	Teton Pass
13-15	Oly Days Spring Carnival	Big Sky of Montana
	Spring Rendezvous	The Big Mountain
	KLYQ-Pepsi Family Race Day	Lost Trail
	Belt Creek Headquarters Relay	Showdown

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Cross Country Ski Lodges (Montana, Wyoming, Utah), Nancy Smith Budrow & Jane Hartline, Sauvie Island Press, Portland, Oregon.

Nordic Skier's Guide to Montana, Elaine Sedlack, Falcon Press, Helena, Montana.

Yellowstone.
The World's Winter Park.

Snowcoach adventures in a unique winter setting with 10,000 hydrothermal features, abundant wildlife, high mountains, rolling hills, beautiful water falls and rivers . . . winter Yellowstone is a sightseer's wonderland.

Visitors can enjoy the convenience of overnight accommodations at Mammoth Hot Springs, in the northern portion of the park or at the Old Faithful Snowlodge in the heart of Yellowstone.

Yellowstone visitors can nordic ski, snowmobile or join a snowcoach tour through the northern sights of the park or the uniqueness of the geyser basin areas and Old Faithful.

Travel to the park's interior by over-the-snow vehicles from the east, south and west gates. The north entrance is kept open to vehicle traffic with over-the-snow travel from Mammoth Hot Springs to the park's interior.

YELLOWSTONE PARK DIVISION

TWA SERVICES, INC.

For information or reservations contact:

TWA Services, Inc.
Attention Sales Department
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

Phone: (307) 344-7311

Photo by Paul Dix

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